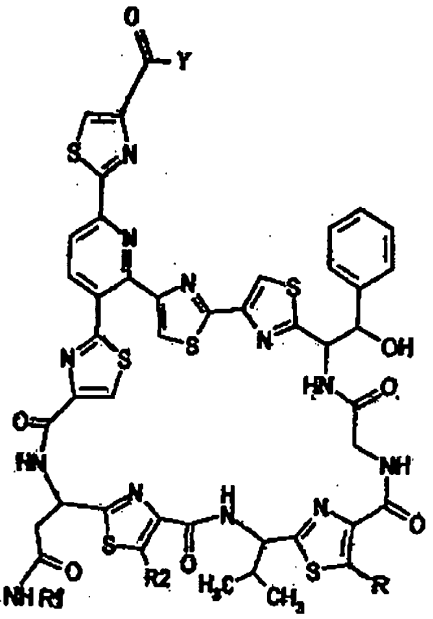
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) A medicament for use in the topical treatment or prevention of acne which comprises a compound of formula (I)

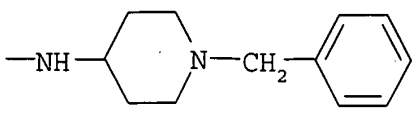


wherein:R represents methoxymethyl,

R_1 represents methyl,

R_2 represents methyl,

Y represents the group



and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, wherein said compound inhibits the growth of Propionibacterium acnes strain at dosages that are inactive against gram-positive bacteria that normally colonize the skin surface.

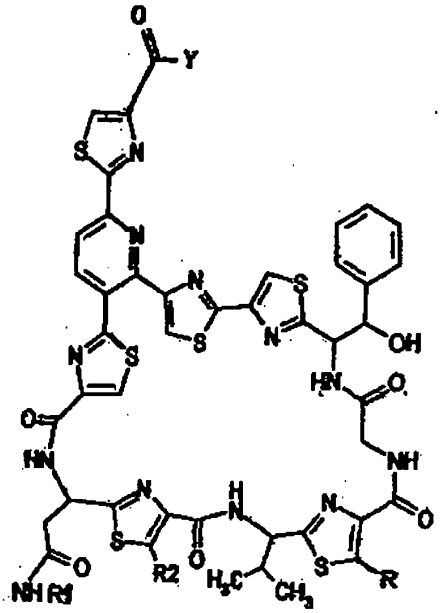
34.-46 (Canceled)

47. (Previously Presented) The medicament as in claim 33, wherein the gram-positive bacteria that normally colonize the skin surface are selected from the group consisting of Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermis, and Streptococcus pyogenes.

48. (Previously Presented) The medicament as in claim 33, wherein the gram-positive bacteria that normally colonize the skin surface are resistant to a broader spectrum antibiotic.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously Presented) A method for treating or preventing acne which comprises topically administering a compound of formula (I)



wherein:

R represents methoxymethyl,

R_1 represents methyl,

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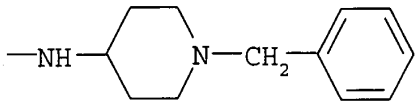
Y represents the group



or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof to a patient affected by or exposed to said skin disorder, in an amount sufficient to provide inhibitory activity or proliferation of Propionibacterium acne, wherein said compound inhibits the growth of Propionibacterium acnes strain at dosages that are inactive against other gram-positive bacteria that normally colonize the skin surface.

51. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 50, wherein the gram-positive bacteria that normally colonize the skin surface are selected from the group consisting of Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermis, and Streptococcus pyogenes.

52. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 50, wherein the gram-positive bacteria that normally colonize the skin surface are resistant to a broader spectrum antibiotic.

53. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 52, wherein the broader spectrum antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of erythromycin, tetracycline, and clindamycin.

54. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 50, further comprising the step of administering an additional component that has auxiliary action in the treatment of acne or provides skin benefits.

55. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 54, wherein the additional component that has auxiliary action in the treatment of acne or provides skin benefits is selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, antimicrobial, comedolytic agent, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, vitamin, oil or sebum control agent, skin healing agent, and skin conditioning agent.

56. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of erythromycin, tetracycline, and clindamycin.

57. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the antimicrobial is selected from the group consisting of chlorexidine, benzoylperoxide, 1-pentadecanol, cedrene, caryophyllene, longifolene, thujopsene, and derivatives thereof.

58. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the comedolytic agent is selected from the group consisting of tretinoin, adapalene, azelaic acid, tazarotene, salicylic acid, and derivatives thereof.

59. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of acetylsalicylic acid, ibuprofen, naproxen, and sulfacetamide.

60. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is hydrocortisone.

61. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the vitamin is retinoic acid or derivatives thereof.

62. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 55, wherein the oil or sebum control agent is clay silicone.

63. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 50, wherein the compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof is incorporated into a pharmaceutical composition suitable for topical administration in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to 10 per cent by weight of said pharmaceutical composition.

64. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 63, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is in the form of a cream, lotion, mousse, spray, emulsion or gel.

65. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 50, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts are salts with hydrochloric acid or lactic acid.

66. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 63, wherein the pharmaceutical composition includes a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.